

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-52. (Canceled).

53. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~52~~63 wherein the determining and ~~outputting~~displaying are performed in a prioritized order.

54. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~54~~63 including when it is determined that the project cost information~~data~~ value does not satisfy the ~~received condition~~any of the thresholds, ~~outputting~~displaying the data value.

55. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~51~~63 wherein at least one of the graphical indicator~~indicators~~ is pre-defined.

56. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~51~~63 wherein the project cost information~~data~~ value corresponds to an attribute of the project.

57. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~51~~63 wherein the ~~indication of the condition~~thresholds and the graphical ~~indicator~~indicators are received via a user interface that provides pre-defined tests for use in a condition.

58. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~51~~63 wherein the ~~indication of the condition~~thresholds and the graphical ~~indicator~~indicators are received via a user interface through which the user can specify whether the ~~condition~~thresholds applies to summary or nonsummary data.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the summary data includes a project summary data.

60. (Currently amended) The method of claim 58 wherein when a ~~condition~~ threshold applies to nonsummary data, receiving an indication as to whether the summary data inherits the ~~condition~~ same threshold.

61. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 51 wherein when a user selects the output graphical indicator, outputting the data value~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps according to claim 63.

62. (New) A method in a computer implemented project information management system, the method comprising:

providing a project having tasks and subtasks, each task and subtask having a cost field with project cost information;

for each task and subtask, receiving from a user a display option indicating whether to display text data or graphical indicators for the cost field;

receiving from the user a summary under budget threshold, a summary under budget graphical indicator, a summary over budget threshold, and a summary over budget graphical indicator for summary data contained in the cost field; and

receiving from the user a non-summary under budget threshold, a non-summary under budget graphical indicator, a non-summary over budget threshold, and a non-summary over budget graphical indicator for non-summary data contained in the cost field, wherein the received thresholds and indicators can be different for each task and subtask;

validating and storing the received thresholds, indicators, and display option;

when processing the cost field for each task and subtask,

determining whether the display option indicates displaying graphical indicators or text data for the field;

if the display option indicates to display text data, displaying text data for the cost field;

if the display option indicates to display graphical indicators and the cost field contains summary data,
retrieving the stored summary under budget and summary over budget thresholds;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the summary under budget threshold;
if the project cost information is less than the under budget threshold, displaying the summary under budget graphical indicator;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the summary over budget;
if the project cost information threshold is greater than the summary over budget threshold, displaying the summary over budget indicator;
if the display option indicates to display graphical indicators and the cost field contains non-summary data,
retrieving the stored non-summary under budget and summary over budget thresholds;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the non-summary under budget threshold;
if the project cost information is less than the non-summary under budget threshold, displaying the non-summary under budget graphical indicator;
comparing the project cost information contained in the cost field with the non-summary over budget threshold; and
if the project cost information is greater than the non-summary over budget threshold, displaying the non-summary over budget indicator.

63. (New) A method in a computer-implemented project information management system, the method comprising:

- receiving a project having tasks, each task having a cost field;
- receiving from a user a display option indicating whether to display text data or graphical indicators for the cost field of a task;
- receiving from a user an under budget threshold, a under budget graphical indicator, an over budget threshold, and an over budget graphical indicator for data contained in the cost field of the task; and
- when processing the cost field for a task,
 - determining whether the display option indicates displaying graphical indicators or text data for the cost field of the task;
 - when the display option indicates to display text data, displaying text data for the cost field; and
 - when the display option indicates to display graphical indicators,
 - when the cost field is less than the under budget threshold, displaying the under budget graphical indicator; and
 - when the cost field is greater than the over budget threshold, displaying the over budget graphical indicator.

64. (New) A project information management system, the system comprising:

- a component that receives a project having tasks, each task having a cost field;
- a component that for each task, stores a display option indicating whether to display text data or graphical indicators for the cost field;
- a component that for each task with a display option indicating to display graphical indicators stores an under budget threshold, an under budget graphical indicator, an over budget threshold, and an over budget graphical indicator for the cost field of a task;
- a component that when processing the cost field for a task,

determines whether the display option indicates displaying graphical indicators or text data for the cost field;
when the display option indicates to display text data, displays text data for the cost field; and
when the display option indicates to display graphical indicators,
retrieves the stored under budget and over budget thresholds;
compares the project cost information contained in the cost field with the under budget threshold;
when the project cost information is less than the under budget threshold, displays the under budget graphical indicator;
compares the project cost information contained in the cost field with the over budget threshold; and
when the project cost information is greater than the over budget threshold, displays the over budget graphical indicator.

65. (New) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein the determining and displaying are performed in a prioritized order.

66. (New) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein when processing the cost field for a task, if the component determines that the project cost information does not satisfy any of the thresholds, the component displays the data value.

67. (New) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein at least one of the graphical indicators is pre-defined.

68. (New) The project information management system of claim 64 wherein the project cost information corresponds to an attribute of the project.

69. (New) The project information management system of claim 64 further comprising a component that receives the thresholds and the graphical indicators via a user interface that provides pre-defined tests for use in a condition.

70. (New) The project information management system of claim 64 further comprising a component that receives the thresholds and the graphical indicators via a user interface through which the user can specify whether the thresholds applies to summary or nonsummary data.

71. (New) The project information management system of claim 70 wherein the summary data includes a project summary data.

72. (New) The project information management system of claim 70 wherein when a threshold applies to nonsummary data, the component receives an indication as to whether the summary data inherits the same threshold.